

Fetal Surveillance Education Program (FSEP)
FSEP Annual Report December 2006
Executive Summary

Self sustained funding:

The FSEP continues to run on a not-for-profit basis with workshops being delivered in every state and territory of Australia and New Zealand. Conscientious use of resources remains essential to ensure the ongoing growth and financial sustainability of the program.

Employment of further educators:

FSEP is currently seeking at least one additional educator. This will allow the Program Manager to focus on further FSEP developments as outlined below as well as meet the increasing requests for education. Educators are also being considered for New Zealand and NSW/QLD.

Validation:

Of primary importance to the long term future of the FSEP is the development of a reliable and valid tool to assess competency in fetal surveillance, across all clinical groups. Contract negotiations are being finalised with the Assessment Research Centre, Faculty of Education, The University of Melbourne for the development of such an assessment tool. We anticipate that this will be piloted early in 2007.

Online delivery:

Contract negotiations are also underway with the Biomedical Multimedia Unit, The University of Melbourne regarding the development of an online education program. This will expand the FSEP's ability to respond to varying adult learning styles and the industry's need for on-demand and geographically independent materials. This site will promote a self directed learning environment both as a resource hub and with scope to facilitate online testing. It should be noted that such online developments are designed to complement rather than replace face-to-face multidisciplinary education. It is envisaged that the online education program will be made available at no cost to those institutions taking part in our face-to-face program.

Video conferencing:

The FSEP continues to trial video conferencing with regional centres as a method of educational delivery. It is hoped that video conferencing will provide greater accessibility and reduced costs for regional and remote areas as well as reduce wear and tear on the clinical educators. Logistical and financial analysis of this option continues.

Additional fetal surveillance modules:

A three hour introductory module has already been prepared specifically for midwifery students. A module for participants who might benefit from a focused revision of the fundamental concepts is also under development. An advanced fetal surveillance module is planned for development in 2007.

Book development:

The FSEP has completed preliminary discussions and scoping for the development of a comprehensive fetal monitoring book. The book will act as a valuable resource to support the face-to-face and web based components of the program and will tightly integrate with both the FSEP and the RANZCOG Intrapartum Fetal Surveillance Clinical Guidelines. This is being developed in conjunction with the Maternal Fetal Medicine Department at Southern Health and contract negotiations are underway.

Points Approval:

FSEP has recently been approved by the Midwifery Council of New Zealand with the allocation of 10 points. It is envisaged that this will pave the way for many more education sessions in New Zealand.



Mark Beaves
FSEP Program Manager